



# **The Episcopal Church of St. Peter by-the-Lake**

**August 31, 2025**



**The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
Holy Eucharist Rite II: 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM**

## **On Humility & Hospitality**

One Saturday night Jesus went to dinner at the home of a man who was a leader of the Pharisee Sect in Judaism. And “they were watching him,” Luke tells us. So you’d think that Jesus would be on his best behavior, right? He’s in the home of a very powerful and influential person, and he’s being ‘vetted’ so to speak. But instead he proceeds to give the dinner guests advice about humility, essentially saying that the company needs to behave precisely the opposite of the way the society dictates. After that he gives some unsolicited advice to his host, telling him whom to invite when he has a party or banquet. Not exactly the ideal guest, would you say?

Clearly, this passage is not meant to set Jesus up as an Amy Vanderbilt of Miss Manners, although his advice might make for interesting dinner parties. When Jesus tells his host whom to invite – the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind – he’s not exactly describing a ‘power lunch.’ But be assured that that’s what he’s talking about – power. Once again, Jesus is describing life in the Kingdom of God, where status and place and roles are reversed. Those most welcome in the Kingdom are those least welcome in society. The ‘haves’ change places with the ‘have nots’, and those at the bottom move to the top. I think that what results is not simply a reversal of the usual power structure, but an elimination of the power structure. There is no top and bottom, no hierarchy of merit. There’s just a feast of equals, where the only power on display is the power of God to transform us into a beloved community.

(Sue Armentrout – Synthesis)

Faithfully,

Father Ron

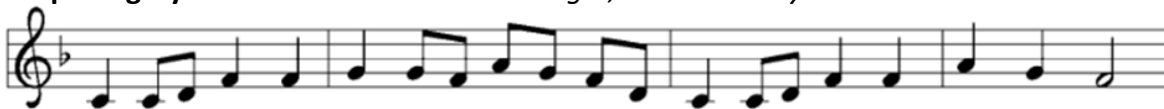
## The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Voluntary:

*Andante from Sonata No. 3 – Felix Mendelssohn*

Opening Hymn:

*"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"*



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.  
2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.  
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth-er, Je-sus Christ is liv-ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.  
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.  
Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.



Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan © 1991 GIA Publication, Inc. OneLicense A-742587

### GENERAL ACCLAMATION

BCP pg. 355

*Celebrant:* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People:* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

## The Collect for Purity

BCP pg. 355

*Celebrant:* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**8:30 am:** *Celebrant:* Lord have mercy  
*People:* **Christ have mercy**  
*Celebrant:* Lord have mercy

BCP Pg. 356

## The Gloria (10:30 am)

Hymnal S 280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father, Amen

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.  
*People:* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant:* Let us pray

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The First Lesson

Jeremiah 2:4-13

*Reader:* A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?  
They did not say, "Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?"

I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things.  
 But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination.  
 The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?"  
 Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me;  
 the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.  
 Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord, and I accuse your children's children.  
 Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care;  
 see if there has ever been such a thing.  
 Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods?  
 But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit.  
 Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord,  
 for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living  
 water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.  
*Reader:*               The Word of the Lord.  
*People:*               **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 81: 1, 10-16

- 1 Sing with joy to God our strength \*  
**and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.**
- 10 I am the Lord your God,  
**who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, \***  
**"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."**
- 11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, \*  
**and Israel would not obey me.**
- 12 So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, \*  
**to follow their own devices.**
- 13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! \*  
**that Israel would walk in my ways!**
- 14 I should soon subdue their enemies \*  
**and turn my hand against their foes.**
- 15 Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, \*  
**and their punishment would last for ever.**
- 16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat \*  
**and satisfy him with honey from the rock.**

## The Second Lesson

**Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16**

*Reader:*               A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

### The Sequence Hymn: *"Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table"*



1. Look who gath-ers at Christ's ta - ble Hear the sto - ries that they bring.  
 2. Clouds of light sur-round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low - ers ap - pear,  
 3. Their sad sto - ries are re - peat - ed in a thou-sand dif - ferent ways,  
 4. Bring your joy and bring your sad-ness, and pre - pare to be sur - prised



Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing; some have songs they want to sing.  
 saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled with their guilt, their doubt and fear.  
 but they share one thing in com - mon: they all end in thanks and praise  
 by the host whose hands are wound - ed, who will o - pen wide your eyes



Oth - ers ask why they're in - vit - ed, bur - dened-by the wrong they've done.  
 Pe - ter tells of his de - ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight;  
 for the host who has in - vit - ed north and south and east and west  
 when he bless - es bread and breaks it truth and man - na from a - bove! -



Christ in - sists they all are wel - come. There is room for ev - ery - one.  
 Paul re - lates his fruit - less ef - forts to ob - lit - er - ate the light.  
 to con - verge a - round this ta - ble, where all life is fed and blest.  
 and then pass - es wine that wa - kens in your heart the taste of love.

## **The Gospel (*standing*)**

**Luke 14:1, 7-14**

*Reader:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable.

"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

*Reader:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **The Sermon**

**Diane Johnson**

## **The Nicene Creed (*standing*)**

**BCP pg. 358**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit  
    he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate:  
    he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
    in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
    and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
    and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
    who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
    and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **The Prayers of the People Form VI**

**BCP pg. 392**

*(said responsively by celebrant and congregation)*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and José, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence      The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence      The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence      The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

### **Confession and Absolution**

**BCP pg. 393**

*Celebrant:* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Leader and People:*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;**

**In your compassion forgive us our sins, Known and unknown,**

**Things done and left undone; And so uphold us by your Spirit**

**That we may live and serve you in newness of life,**

**To the honor and glory of your Name;**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**



## The Peace

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

## Announcements

### The Liturgy of the Table

#### The Offertory

*‘For Everyone Born’ – Brian Mann*

For everyone born, a place at the table,  
for everyone born, clean water and bread,  
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,  
for everyone born, a star overhead,

For young and for old, a place at the table,  
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,  
for young and for old, the right to belong, **(Refrain)**

**Refrain:** and God will delight when we are creators  
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:  
yes, God will delight when we are creators  
of justice, justice and joy!

For just and unjust, a place at the table,  
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,  
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,  
for just and unjust, a new way to live, **(Refrain)**

For woman and man, a place at the table,  
revising the roles, deciding the share,  
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,  
for woman and man, a system that’s fair, **(Refrain)**

For everyone born, a place at the table,  
to live without fear, and simply to be,  
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,  
for everyone born, the right to be free, **(Refrain)**

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## At the Presentation

#### Doxology

**Hymnal 380**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

#### The Bidding Prayer

*Celebrant:* This is the table of our Lord, Jesus Christ. It is made ready for all.  
So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little,  
You who have been here often and you who have not been here long,  
You who have tried to follow and those who struggle to find the path.  
Come, because it is God who invites you.  
It is God’s will that those who desire to do so should meet God here.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer A)

BCP pg. 361

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

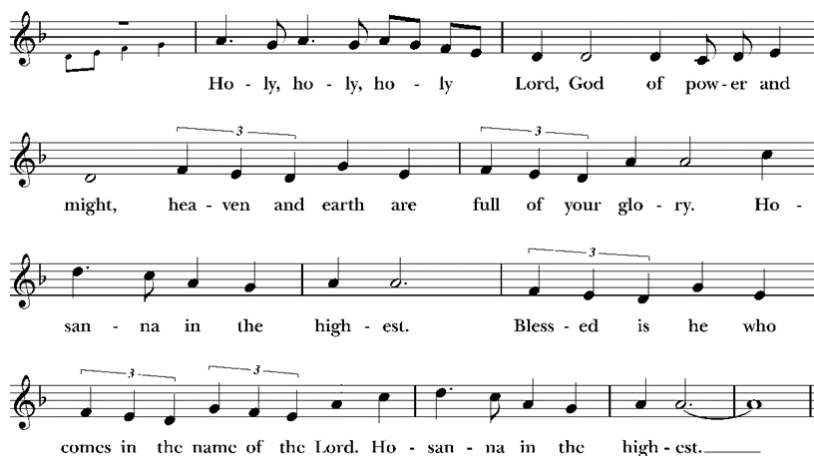
*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant:* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (Preface of the day.) Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## SANCTUS

S - 129



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

*The people kneel or sit.*

*Celebrant:* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People:*       **Christ has died.**  
   **Christ is risen.**  
   **Christ will come again.**

*Celebrant:*       We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

**Danish 3-fold (10:30)**   And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**BCP 364**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
    on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

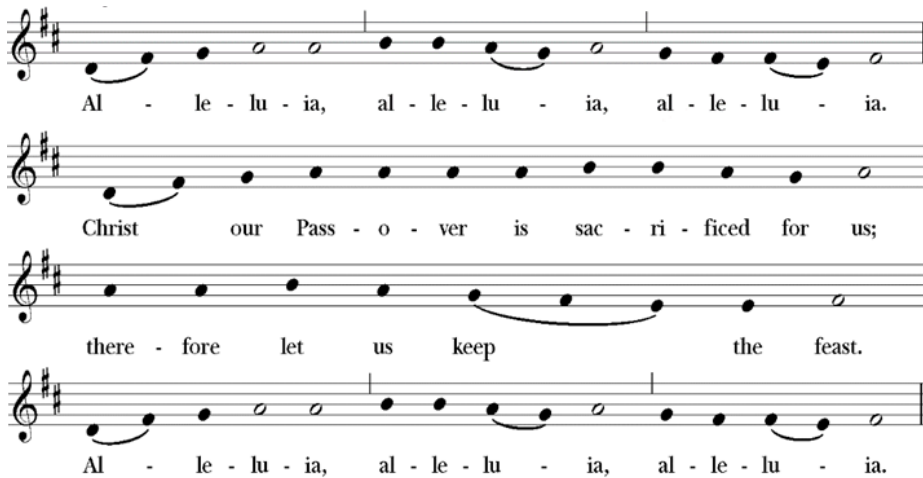
## The Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant: Alleluia.* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!*

## The Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S 154



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Administration of the Sacrament

### Communion of the People

#### Communion Hymn 'Come to the Table of Grace'

1. Come to the table of *grace*. Come to table of *grace*.  
This is God's table; It's not yours or mine.  
Come to the table of *grace*.

2. *peace*, 3. *love*, 4 *hope*, 5. *joy*

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**Post Communion Prayer (Celebrant and People)**

**BCP pg. 365**

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Blessing**

**Recessional Hymn:**

*“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”*

**Hymnal 602**

**The Dismissal**

**BCP pg. 366**

*Celebrant:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Closing Voluntary:** *Chanson – Robert Schumann*

## **SPBTL NEWS AND EVENTS**

**CENTERING PRAYER** 10AM, Meets downstairs every Wed. Please join us!

**COFFEE HOUR** Sign up in Fotinos Hall or call the office.

**VALLE CRUCIS REGISTRATION** Is now open! Annual Parish Retreat will be October 17th–19th, 2025 See our website or Fotinos Hall for more info and a registration form.

**MUSIC MINISTRY:** Our church welcomes everyone who loves music, with no auditions required to participate in the music ministries. Whether you are a seasoned musician or just enjoy singing from the heart, your voice and presence are valued here. Come be a part of something special as we uplift each other and celebrate our faith through song!

- **Chancel Choir** rehearsals will resume on Wed., August 27, at 7PM in the Nave.
- **Handbell Choir** rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, September 10, at 6:00 PM.

**VALLE CRUCIS REGISTRATION** Is now open! Annual Parish Retreat will be October 17th–19th, 2025 See our website or Fotinos Hall for more info and a registration form.

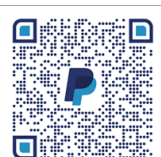
### **WELCOME BACK SUNDAY**

September 14th We will have ONE service only at 10am. Followed by a Parish Fellowship brunch in Furr Hall. We hope you make plans to join us for a morning of community, faith, and good food!

**Financial Status as of May 31, 2025**

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance YTD
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$236,731</b>	<b>\$219,878</b>	<b>\$16,852</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$223,690</b>	<b>\$219,648</b>	<b>(\$4,042)</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$13,041</b>	<b>\$230</b>	<b>\$12,811</b>

*Scan the QR Code with your phone — this will take you directly to St. Peter's gift entry screen.*



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** —- Please check your calendars in advance so we don't have missing servants. We will see these Special Servants next week, 9/7/25:

**8:30 AM**

*Usher*— Helen Lungwitz

*Acolyte* - Tracey Engel

*Reader* - Susan Schuman

**10:30 AM**

*Ushers* - Gary Johnston, David Plyler

*Acolytes* - Ethan Graham, Diana Mushill

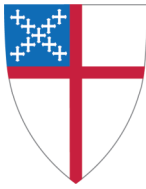
*Reader* - Cyndi Jarvis

*Lay Reader* - Cyndi Jarvis

*Livestream* - Walter Smith, Bill Reid

*The altar flowers are given by Libby Motto to the glory of God in honor of Sarah's birthday.*

*Happy Birthday to the best daughter on the planet!*



## **The Episcopal Church of St. Peter by-the-Lake**

8433 Fairfield Forest

Denver, North Carolina 28037 (704-483-3460)

<https://www.saintpeterbythelake.net/>

### **Jesus Christ, Head of the Church**

**Ministers:** All members of the Church

The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin, Bishop

**Rector:** The Rev. Dr. Ron Taylor

**Christian Formation Director:** Ginia Edwards

**Director of Music:** David Wilcox

**Director of Music Emeritus:** Leigh Ann Johnston

**Licensed Lay Reader:** Diane Davis

**Ushers:** Jennifer Baker, Jim Racz, Mary Sansbury

**Chalice Bearers:** Michele Moss, Hope Paasch, Elaine Jacobs

**Acolytes:** Cathy Melesh, Jack Dwyer,

**Readers:** Cathy Melesh, Andy Parton

**Altar Guild Team 4 –** Beckye Smith, Karen Horne, Pamela Weed, Jenny Hunter, Chuck Hunter, Scott Major, Emily Gentry, Kathryn Graham, Patsy Roosa

**Bread Guild Team 1:** Vickie Jordan, Libby Barger, Tracey Engel

**Livestream Tech:** Beth Lunney, Phillip Russo

**Coffee Hour:** Tricia & Mark Wagner

### **THE VESTRY**

**Senior Warden – Jessica Gustis**

**Junior Warden – Stephanie Heil**

Tracey Engel, Pat Higbie, Gary Jarvis, Connie Mathis, Bill Reid, Mary Sansbury, Pamela Weed

Clerk of the Vestry: Daphne Wagner

### **THE STAFF**

**The Rev. Dr. Ronald B. Taylor, Rector**

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**Ginia Edwards, Director of Christian Formation**

gedwards@spbtl.com

**David Wilcox, Director of Music**

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**Kate D'Amato, Parish Administrator**

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**Sherree Brady, Finance Administrator**

financeadmin@spbtl.com

**Jim Heil, Treasurer**

jheil164@yahoo.com

### ***MISSION STATEMENT:***



***BE DISCIPLES:***

***ENGAGE THE WORLD***